David Busk

English 063

Mr. T

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Cows produce methane gas

One individual can have an effect on today’s environment by eating less meat and planting a tree or growing house plants. Approximately 15 to 20 percent of global methane emissions come from livestock. Each extra pound of fat on the body requires more oxygen to maintain, which plant life must replenish. Everyone can benefit from knowing how to reduce and even prevent green house gases which are causing global warming, severe weather, and animal species extinctions. Over the past 200 years the accumulation of methane in the earth’s atmosphere has nearly doubled.

Today livestock is one of the world’s most serious environmental problems producing more greenhouse gases than cars. Cows naturally produce methane as part of their digestive process, belching it while chewing their cud and producing it in their waste. A single cow will need five acres of pasture in order to thrive during its lifetime. During its lifetime a cow creates truckloads of manure, manure that creates a considerable amount of methane gas. Manure alone generates 65per cent of all human-related nitrous oxide.

By cutting down on how much meat we eat at the table we can reduce toxic green house emissions and energy, which is burned up through several processing stages, which include paper, plastic, Styrofoam, cardboard and transportation to processing plants, various stores, and then our kitchen. Many different meats we eat like hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken nuggets are produced by the livestock business which now uses 30 per cent of the earth’s entire land surface to produce the things we eat. With global meat production estimated to double from 229 million tons in 2000 to 465 million tons in 2050, there is more manure than ever before producing more bad gases. Biogas plants to recycle manure, improved animal diets and soil conservation are needed today to reduce greenhouse gases.

Having plants around the house or at work can help give back some of the oxygen you breath. Plant life consumes carbon dioxide which is a greenhouse gas and produces life giving oxygen. Plants can be added to balconies or rooftops and foyers of office buildings. Fill your home with such easy to grow plants as philodendrons, cactus, spider plants or ivy and your outside landscaping with trees and bushes to enhance the environment.

If each of us were to consume less meat each day, grow houseplants in our homes and office buildings and plantings in our yards we can positively affect the environment by producing less methane gas and putting more oxygen into the atmosphere.